

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in the present application, and claims 1, 2, 14, 15, and 17-20 have been amended herein to better recite the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments to the claims do not add new matter and have adequate support throughout the Specification as originally filed. Furthermore, Applicant makes clear that the amendments to the claims were not made for purposes of patentability or to avoid the prior art, but rather were made for the sole purpose of correcting minor grammatical errors of form and to better claim the subject matter Applicant regards as the invention. Accordingly, Applicant does not intend to relinquish any scope of equivalents afforded the pending claims.

Otherwise, Applicant respectfully traverses all claim rejections for the reasons that follow:

I. OBJECTIONS TO CLAIMS 15 AND 17

The Examiner has objected to claims 15 and 17 for containing minor errors of form. These claims have been amended herein to address the Examiner's concerns. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments to claims 15 and 17 do not add new matter and have adequate support throughout the Specification as originally filed. Accordingly, it is kindly requested that the objections to these claims be withdrawn.

II. REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 2-4, 14, AND 17 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶2

Claims 2-4, 14, and 17 were rejected as indefinite under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶2 for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. The claims were amended herein to address the Examiner's §112, ¶2 concerns. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments to claims 2-4, 14, and 17 do not add new matter and have adequate support throughout the Specification. Accordingly, it is kindly requested that the rejections of claims 2-4, 14, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §112, ¶2 be withdrawn.

III. REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 1-6, 8, 10-15, 19 AND 20 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1-6, 8, 10-15, 19 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,787,040 to Ames et al. (Hereinafter “Ames”). Respectfully, Applicant traverses.

Claim 1 as amended herein recites a reconfigurable display of a vehicle, comprising . . . a processing arrangement . . . configured to display at least one characteristic of the vehicle via the display arrangement in accordance with profile information assigned to a selected profile of a plurality of profiles, wherein the selected profile is selectable from the plurality of profiles by the user of the vehicle.” By providing a plurality of profiles selectable by different users, claim 1 permits “intra-group customability (e.g., individual customability for members of a defined group).” (Specification; page 1, lines 22-26). The defined group may be, for example, a family containing different members, for example, with each member of the family being assigned a different profile. (Specification; page 10, lines 5-11).

Ames relates to a display system for an automotive vehicle. The system includes a controller containing circuitry to allow it to be programmed to display monochrome or color graphics and text on an all-points-addressable display device, such as a CRT. As characterized, the design of the controller allows the display characteristics and supported functions to be changed through reconfigurable hardware and software, **allowing a broad range of applications in different model automobiles**. (Ames; Abstract; col. 2, lines 38-43) (emphasis added). The vehicle operator controls the display system via a reconfigurable switch system, such as a touch screen. (Ames; col. 2, lines 49-53).

Although Ames discloses that the display system is reconfigurable, it is believed that the “reconfigurability” described in this reference is effectuated by the manufacturer of the vehicle to accommodate different types of vehicles, not by a user of the vehicle to accommodate his or her own preferences. (Ames; Abstract; col. 2, lines 38-43). For one type of vehicle, for example, the manufacturer may reconfigure the display to display different style of graphics and text information. This configuration may be different for another type of vehicle. Indeed, Ames states that “[t]he programmability of display type and communication format is accomplished by tables which are loaded into the video gate array . . . personalizing the communications link protocols and message formats” and explicitly states that the “reconfigurability” allows “a broad range of application [sic] in different model automobiles.” (Ames; col. 2, lines 38-43; col. 11, lines 32-36). To accommodate different display formats, Ames appears to disclose the use of different

preprogrammed PROMS (or ROMS) for storing different “personalities” of the display system. (Ames; col. 8, lines 44-62).

Unlike Ames, the “reconfigurability” of the display of claim 1 is not controlled by the manufacturer to accommodate different types of vehicles, but rather is controlled by the user of the vehicle to accommodate his or her own display preferences. Ames discloses absolutely nothing in this regard. Ames discloses nothing regarding different “profiles,” much less whether these profiles are “selectable from the plurality of profiles by the user of the vehicle,” as recited in claim 1.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowable over Ames. Furthermore, since claims 2-6, 8, and 10-15 ultimately depend from claim 1, and since claims 19 and 20 contain features analogous to those of claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that these claims are allowable over Ames for at least the same reasons. Accordingly, it is kindly requested that the rejections of claims 1-6, 8, 10-15, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) be withdrawn.

IV. REJECTIONS OF CLAIMS 7, 9, 16, AND 17 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 7, 9, 16, and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Ames. Respectfully, Applicant traverses.

As described about with respect to the anticipation rejections of claims 1-6, 8, 10-15, 19 and 20, Ames fails to disclose each and every feature of claim 1, from which claims 7, 9, 16, and 17 ultimately depend. Specifically, Ames fails to disclose at least “a processing arrangement . . . configured to display at least one characteristic of the vehicle via the display arrangement in accordance with profile information assigned to a selected profile of a plurality of profiles, wherein the selected profile is selectable from the plurality of profiles by the user of the vehicle,” as recited in claim 1.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 7, 9, 16, and 17 are allowable over Ames. Accordingly, it is kindly requested that the rejections of claims 7, 9, 16, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) be withdrawn.

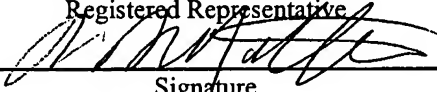
V. CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are currently in allowable condition. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application, allow the claims and pass this case to issue.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on August 8, 2005

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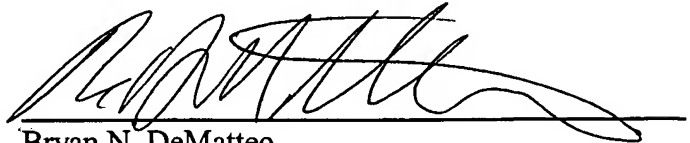


Signature

August 8, 2005

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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